## Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-13 ABF-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /074 R

DRAFTED BY:USOAS:JMDION:MCH APPROVED BY:ARA-MR. SHLAUDEMAN USOAS:REWHITE USOAS:RBMOON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

INFO ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

USCINCSO

XMT AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

XMT AMEMBASSY NASSAU

XMT AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 177809

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OAS, SHNM

SUBJECT: SUPPORT FOR INTER-AMERICAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

1. KENNEDY AMENDMENT TO FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT EARMARKS A PERCENTAGE OF US VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION TO THE OAS FOR PURPOSE OF SUPPLEMENTING US ASSESSED CONTRIBUTION FOR BUDGETARY SUPPORT OF IAHRC. FAA BECAME LAW ON JUNE 30. CONFIDENTIAL

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WE ARE DRAFTING A NOTE TO SECGEN ORFILA INFORMING OAS THAT OVER NEXT TWO YEARS APPROXIMATELY DOLS. 102,000 PER YEAR FROM U.S. VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS WILL BE FOR USE OF IAHRC IN CARRYING OUT ITS MANDATE. WHILE SPECIFIC USE OF FUNDS

NOT OUR CONCERN, WORK OF IAHRC HAS BEEN RESTRICTED BY TIGHT BUDGET AND OUR NOTE WILL SUGGEST THAT ITS PRIORITY NEEDS ARE OFFICE EQUIPMENT, SERVICES OF ONE FILE CLERK, TRAVEL/PER DIEM COMPENSATION, ETC. NOTE WILL MAKE STRONG POINT THAT KENNEDY AMENDMENT FUNDS ARE EARNEST OF US COMMITMENT TO HUMAN RIGHTS GOALS ENDORSED BY VI OASGA AND ARE PROVIDED WITH HOPE OTHER MEMBER STATES WILL ALSO CONTRIBUTE TO WORK OF IAHRC.

2. WE WANT TO ENCOURAGE OTHER STATES WITH STRONG INTEREST IN HUMAN RIGHTS TO MANIFEST SUPPORT FOR IAHRC BY SIMILAR GESTURE. PRIME CANDIDATE IS VENEZUELA WHICH WAS LEADING ADVOCATE OF STRONG HUMAN RIGHTS RESOLUTIONS AT SANTIAGO,

IS HOME OF IAHRC CHAIRMAN AGUILAR AND CAN AFFORD SUCH A CONTRIBUTION. MEXICO SHOULD ALSO WELCOME OPPORTUNITY TO DEMONSTRATE ITS POSITIVE SUPPORT FOR CAUSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS. OTHER MEMBER STATES WHICH MIGHT CONTRIBUTE ARE COLOMBIA, COSTA RICA, AND THREE ENGLISH-SPEAKING CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES.

3. SHOULD THESE FONOFFS SUGGEST THAT US CONTRIBUTION MAKES SUPERFLUOUS ANY FURTHER FUNDS FOR IAHRC, YOU MIGHT POINT OUT THAT WHAT WE HOPE FOR IS PLEDGE. OAS REP IN MAKING STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FOR IAHRC NEED NOT MENTION DATE AT WHICH ACTUAL FUNDS WOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE. AT LEAST, WE WOULD HOPE THAT ACTION ADDRESSEES WOULD LEND SUPPORT TO US EFFORT AT EARMARKING VOLUNTARY FUNDS FOR IAHRC IN EVENT MORE CONSERVATIVE STATES OPPOSE.

## 4. ACTION REQUESTED:

FOR CARACAS: DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE IF AMBASSADOR OR CHARGE WOULD TAKE EARLY OPPORTUNITY TO APPROACH FONMIN ESCOVAR, DESCRIBE ACTION WE ARE TAKING UNDER KENNEDY AMENDMENT AND SUGGEST THAT VENEZUELA SHOW STRENGTH OF ITS CONVICTIONS BY SIMILAR ACT.

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FOR MEXICO: DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE AMBASSADOR OR CHARGE TAKING UP WITH FONMIN GARCIA ROBLES GENERAL QUESTION OF IMPROVING CLIMATE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, U.S. SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION AND CONCLUDE BY ENCOURAGING MEXICO TO CONTRIBUTE TO IAHRC.

FOR BOGOTA, BRIDGETOWN, KINGSTON, SAN JOSE AND PORT OF SPAIN: PLEASE APPROACH FONOFF AT HIGH LEVEL TO DESCRIBE US SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION TO OAS HUMAN RIGHTS EFFORT AND SUGGEST THAT DEMONSTRATION OF SUPPORT FOR IAHRC BY OTHER CONCERNED MEMBER STATES WOULD BE EARNEST OF COMMITMENTS MADE AT SANTIAGO.

5. FOR INFO ADDRESSEES: IF IN YOUR JUDGMENT A DEMARCHE IN YOUR CAPITAL MIGHT PRODUCE A SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION OR OTHERWISE BE USEFUL IN DRAMATIZING OUR COMMITMENT TO FOLLOW THROUGH ON HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE, FEEL FREE TO PROCEED, AT LEVEL YOU THINK BEST. ROBINSON

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 15 SEP 1999 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED Concepts: POLICIES, PFOR, SHNM, FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 17 JUL 1976 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE177809

Document Number: 1976STATE177809
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter:

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: 11652 GDS Errors: n/a Film Number: D760278-0319

From: STATE

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t197607109/baaaepjo.tel Line Count: 116 Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM

Office: ORIGIN ARA

Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 3

Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL

Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: n/a

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: GolinoFR Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags: Review Date: 07 JUL 2004

**Review Event:** 

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 JUL 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <08 JUL 2004 by GolinoFR>

**Review Markings:** 

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MÁY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:** Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: SUPPORT FOR INTER-AMERICAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

TAGS: PFOR, CO, US, OAS, IAHRC
To: BOGOTA

**BRIDGETOWN CARACAS** KINGSTON **MEXICO** PORT OF SPAIN SAN JOSE INFO ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS
USCINCSO
XMT GEORGETOWN
XMT NASSAU
XMT PARAMARIBO
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006